



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

Thomson Alexander

EXAMINER: William S. Fee

SERIAL NO.:

09/781,482

GROUP UNIT: 3677

FILED:

February 12, 2001

DATED:

January 10, 2003

FOR:

ACCESS OPENING CLOSURE DEVICE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

JAN 1 7 2003

GROUP 3600

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 10, 2002, please consider the following remarks:

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in this application. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication that Claims 5 and 15 contain allowable subject matter. However, Applicant believes that all of the claims contain allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the remarks to follow.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on <u>January 10, 2003</u>.

Dated: January 10, 2003

Christopher G. Trainor